

REMARKS

Claims 3, 6 and 7 have been amended to overcome the outstanding § 112 rejection. Withdrawal is requested.

Claim 1 has been amended for patentability purposes, by including features of canceled claim 9. The other amendments to claim 1 are for cosmetic purposes, and do not relate to patentability.

Independent claim 1 stands rejected under § 103 on the basis of Kodera et al. To overcome this rejection and the rejection of dependent claims 2-14, the allowable subject matter of claim 9 has been added to claim 1. Accordingly, withdrawal of this and the other art rejections is respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, applicant believes that this case is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The examiner should call applicant's attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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